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AM 124

1955

MEMORANDUM TO: Deputy Director (Support)

FROM: Director of Security

SUBJECT: Security Considerations for Proposed New
Central Intelligence Agency Building

EPA
8246
4th Jan 1955

1. I believe it is of the utmost importance to take into consideration certain basic security provisions and requirements at the outset of planning a new Central Intelligence Agency building. To this end I am submitting herewith in the attached enclosure (A) the fundamental security factors which should be taken into account.

2. I recommend also that this office be afforded the opportunity to comment upon all proposed construction features from a security standpoint throughout all stages, from the preparation of engineering and architectural layouts down to the final plans and specifications and construction. Along this line, consultation should be had with appropriate authorities, such as the Atomic Energy Commission, the Federal Civil Defense Administration, and the Office of Defense Mobilization, who might be versed in information concerning protective construction.

3. Bearing in mind the fact that it was necessary to obtain special permission from the Chief Executive before undertaking the planning for construction of this new building, and that such special permission constituted an exception to the general rule prohibiting construction of new Government buildings in the immediate vicinity of Washington, it is urged that great emphasis be placed upon construction which will afford the maximum degree of protection against the effects of attack with high yield atomic and other thermonuclear weapons which are within present and foreseeable enemy capabilities. Consideration should be given to providing within the foundations of the building itself protective areas capable of sheltering personnel, communications facilities, sensitive files, and emergency control headquarters facilities. It is recommended that every effort be made to explore the possibilities afforded by reinforced subterranean construction two or more floors down.

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4. Members of this office stand prepared to assist to the fullest extent in working with the planners along these lines.

Emergency
Planning Offices

EPO/ANBirvh (24 Feb. '55)

SHEPHERD EDWARDS

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Approved For Release 2001/08/08 : CIA-RDP78-04007A001100030003-4

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Next 3 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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